Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SS-15 DODE-00 NSAE-00 ICA-20 TRSE-00 SOE-02 DOE-15 CIAE-00 COME-00 ACDA-12 PA-02 H-02 MCE-00 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 /101 R

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TO AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION USNATO

UNCLAS STATE 176126

USOECD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ESTC

SUBJECT: TASS COMPUTER AND DRILLING BIT PLANT FOR USSR

1. AT JULY 11 PRESS BRIEFING, THE FOLLOWING QUESTION WAS TAKEN:

A NUMBER OF CONGRESSMAN HAVE URGED THE PRESIDENT TO VETO THE PROPOSED SALES TO THE SOVIET UNION OF A SPERRY UNIVAC COMPUTER TO BE SOLD TO TASS, AND A TUNGSTEN CARBIDE DRILLING BIT PLANT TO BE SHIPPED BY THE DRESSER CORPORATION, I BELIEVE. DOES THE DEPARTMENT HAVE ANY VIEW ON THE APPLICATIONS FOR EXPORT OF THOSE TWO ITEMS?

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- 2. ANSWER PROVIDED AT NOON JULY 12 WAS TO THE EFFECT THAT SECTION 7(C) OF THE EXPORT ADMINISTRATION ACT OBLIGES US TO RESPECT THE CONFIDENTIALITY OF THE DETAILS OF SPECIFIC CASES.
- 3. A FOLLOW-UP QUESTION WAS TAKEN AS TO WHETHER A FORMAL STUDY HAD BEEN ORDERED AND WHETHER A COORDINATING

COMMITTEE OF WHICH MR. VEST IS CHAIRMAN AND MR. SHULMAN IS ADVISOR WAS CARRYING IT OUT.

4. THE ANSWER PROVIDED AT 5 PM JULY 12 WAS:

"THERE HAS BEEN NO FORMAL STUDY ORDERED ON SUCH TRADE MATTERS. INDIVIDUAL CASES ARE REVIEWED ON THEIR MERITS IN A STANDING INTER-AGENCY FRAMEWORK (ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON EXPORT POLICY CHAIRED BY COMMERCE). THE COORDINATING COMMITTEE OF WHICH MR. VEST AND MR. SHULMAN ARE CO-CHAIRMEN IS NOT PART OF THE FRAMEWORK." CHRISTOPHER

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